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COUNTRY Polish-Occupied Germany

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1A

TOPIC Soviet Ammunition Depot and Soviet Unit near Kotzenau

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25X1X EVALUATION	PLACE OBTAINED	25X1A
25X1A DATE OF CONTENT		
25X1A DATE OBTAINED	DATE PREPARED	11 October 1950
25X1A REFERENCES		
PAGES 2	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)	
REMARKS		

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SOURCE [REDACTED]

1. The ammunition depot 4 km south of Kotzenau (O 52/B 64) in Silesia, is housed in a former German ammunition depot and was directly assigned to an army headquarters in Liegnitz (O 52/B 82).* Commandant of the depot and of the army unit stationed there was Colonel Rukin (fmu). His adjutant was Major Vasadin (fmu). The depot is located in a thick pine woods, some hundred meters west of the Dohna railroad station and has a connection to the railroad station.
2. The depot covers an area of 2,500 x 800 meters and was subdivided into three departments. Department I stored mortar ammunition of 82, 120 and 160 mm calibers, and small arms ammunition packed in boxes and stored in earth bunkers. Department II had AT artillery ammunition of 37, 57 and 76.2 mm calibers and AAA ammunition of 37, 57 and 85 mm calibers. Department III stored artillery ammunition of 100, 122, 152 and 203 mm calibers along with the suitable German cartridges. All bunkers were filled to capacity. The stored ammunition was well cleaned and greased and its cleanliness was currently checked. Three cleaning sheds, two magazines, several wooden sheds, an engine shed for the depot railroad, in addition to a water point and a loading ramp with a shed, formed part of the depot. All buildings were camouflaged brick structures with flat roofs. Incoming ammunition shipments arrived irregularly by rail. Outgoing shipments were seldom observed. The ammunition depot was surrounded by a mesh-wire fence. A 20-meter observation strip ran along the inside of the fence followed by a fire ditch and a double barbed-wire fence 2½ meters high. The barbed-wire fence was additionally secured by chevaux-de-frise. The depot was illuminated at night. Observation posts occupied by sentries with machine guns had been erected every 150 meters.
3. A quartering area with wooden and stone buildings bordered the ammunition depot to the northwest. The area was surrounded by a barbed-wire fence and secured by chevaux-de-frise. (1) The area was occupied by a horse-drawn unit of about 1,000 men. The unit had APN 75259 or 75359. The soldiers wore red-bordered black epaulets with crossed-gun-barrel insignia. The unit had not been relieved since 1945. About 30 officers were billeted in the six houses of nearby Saupenau (O 52/B 64).

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4. Drill without rifles was observed twice a week. Training in firing and in the throwing of hand grenades was conducted in the evening with individual groups. The remainder of the time the soldiers cleaned and greased ammunition. **
5. Since June 1949 the installation has been protected by a heavy AAA battery of six 85-mm guns emplaced in an open field about 300 meters northwest of the barracks. ***

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* [REDACTED] Comment. Information on the layout of the Rotzenau ammunition depot was previously transmitted. See (Gen. Proj.) [REDACTED] The previous information was based on the data furnished by the head of this former German ammunition depot. The assignment to a high-echelon headquarters in Liegnitz is credible.

** [REDACTED] Comment. The unit concerned is probably the guard or work detail of the ammunition depot.

*** [REDACTED] Comment. The AAA unit probably was a component of the GHQ AAA unit, possibly the 65th AAA Div, of the high-echelon headquarters in Liegnitz.

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